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*Admitted only in Maryland
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February 11, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/728,816; Filed: December 8, 2003
For: **Hydrostatic Vehicle Driving System Applicable
to a Working Vehicle**
Inventors: Yano *et al.*
Our Ref: 0666.1700001/TGD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115;
2. Information Disclosure Statement;
3. Form PTO/SB/08a citing four (4) references AA1-AD1;
4. A copy of each of the four (4) cited references AA1-AD1; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
February 11, 2004
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
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TGD:nar
Enclosures

227249



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Yano *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/728,816

Filed: December 8, 2003

For: **Hydrostatic Vehicle Driving
System Applicable to a Working
Vehicle**

Art Unit: *To Be Assigned*

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 0666.1700001

Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. This Preliminary Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned

under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.